5

25

## AO-F14PCT Literal English Translation of PCT/JP2004/015941

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A porous calcium phosphate ceramic body comprising a substrate, and three-dimensional nanotunnel layers formed on wall surfaces of said substrate and having pluralities of three-dimensionally connected nanotunnels.
- 2. The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 1, wherein said three-dimensional nanotunnel layers have an average thickness of 20 nm to 10  $\mu$ m.
- The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 1
  or 2, wherein said substrate has fine pores, and said three-dimensional nanotunnel layers being formed on wall surfaces of said fine pores.
  - 4. The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 3, wherein said three-dimensional nanotunnel layers are formed on 5 to 100% of the wall surfaces of said fine pores.
- 15 5. The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 3 or 4, wherein at least part of said nanotunnels have openings communicating with the fine pores of said substrate.
  - 6. The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 5, wherein said openings have an average diameter of 1 to 5000 nm.
- 7. The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to any one of claims 3 to 5, wherein said substrate has a porosity of 40 to 98%.
  - 8. The porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the atomic ratio of Ca/P in said three-dimensional nanotunnel layers is substantially equal to or smaller than that in said substrate.
  - 9. A method for producing a porous calcium phosphate ceramic body having a three-dimensional nanotunnels layer, comprising the steps of immersing a calcium phosphate substrate in a slurry containing fine calcium phosphate particles, defoaming said slurry under reduced pressure,

AO-F14PCT Literal English Translation of PCT/JP2004/015941 and heat-treating the slurry-carrying substrate.

- 10. The method for producing a porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 9, wherein said fine calcium phosphate particles have an average diameter of 10 nm to 5  $\mu$ m.
- 5 11. The method for producing a porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to claim 10, wherein said fine calcium phosphate particles are as long as 10 to 200 nm in the c-axis and 1 to 100 nm in the a-axis, and have a specific surface area of 30 to 300 m<sup>2</sup>/g.
- The method for producing a porous calcium phosphate ceramic
  body according to claim 10 or 11, wherein said fine calcium phosphate
  particles are single crystals of calcium phosphate.
  - 13. The method for producing a porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to any one of claims 9 to 12, wherein said substrate is porous.
- 15 14. The method for producing a porous calcium phosphate ceramic body according to any one of claims 9 to 13, wherein said heat treatment is conducted at a temperature of 600 to 900°C.